

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1 through 8 (canceled)

1           9. (Previously presented) A method of treating a patient  
2 undergoing treatment with a gestagen hormone composition for  
3 hormone replacement therapy, for inflammation, for an in vitro  
4 fertilization program, for dermatological therapy or for  
5 cosmetological treatment to reduce a risk to the patient of  
6 thromboembolism induced by taking the gestagen hormone, which  
7 comprises the step of administering to the patient simultaneously,  
8 previously or subsequently to taking the gestagen hormone  
9 composition a therapeutically effective amount of a plasma  
10 homocysteine reducing agent.

1           10. (Previously presented) The method of treatment  
2 defined in claim 9 wherein the plasma homocysteine reducing agent  
3 is a compound selected from the group consisting of Vitamin B<sub>12</sub>,  
4 betaine, choline, and acetylcysteine.

1           11. (Previously presented) The method of treatment  
2 defined in claim 9 wherein the plasma homocysteine reducing agent  
3 is folic acid.

1           12. (Previously presented) The method of treatment  
2 defined in claim 9 wherein the plasma homocysteine reducing agent  
3 is Vitamin B<sub>6</sub>.

13 - 19 (canceled)

1           20. (Currently amended) A method of reducing a risk to  
2 an otherwise healthy patient of thromboembolism induced by  
3 administration of a gestagen hormone to said patient for  
4 contraception comprising the step of administering to the patient  
5 simultaneously, previously or subsequently to taking the gestagen  
6 hormone composition a therapeutically effective amount of a plasma  
7 homocysteine reducing agent.

21 - 24 (canceled)

1           25. (Previously presented) A method of treating a  
2 patient taking a composition comprising a gestagen hormone to  
3 reduce a risk of thromboembolism induced by taking the gestagen  
4 hormone, which comprises the step of administering to the patient  
5 simultaneously, previously or subsequently to taking the  
6 composition comprising the gestagen hormone, a therapeutically  
7 effective amount of Vitamin B<sub>12</sub>, betaine, choline or acetyl  
8 cysteine.

1           26. (New) The method of reducing a risk of  
2 thromboembolism defined in claim 20 wherein the plasma homocysteine  
3 reducing agent is a compound selected from the group consisting of  
4 Vitamin B<sub>12</sub>, betaine, choline, and acetylcysteine.

1           27. (New) The method of reducing a risk of  
2 thromboembolism defined in claim 20 wherein the plasma homocysteine  
3 reducing agent is folic acid.

1           28. (New) The method of reducing a risk of  
2 thromboembolism defined in claim 20 wherein the plasma homocysteine  
3 reducing agent is Vitamin B<sub>6</sub>.

1           29. (New) A method of treating a patient undergoing  
2 treatment with a gestagen hormone composition to reduce a risk to  
3 the patient of thromboembolism induced by taking the gestagen  
4 hormone composition, comprising the step of administering to the  
5 patient simultaneously, previously or subsequently to taking the  
6 gestagen hormone composition, a therapeutically effective amount of  
7 a plasma homocysteine reducing agent other than folic acid.

1           30. (New) The method of treatment defined in claim 29  
2 wherein the plasma homocysteine reducing agent is a compound  
3 selected from the group consisting of Vitamin B<sub>12</sub>, betaine, choline,  
4 and acetylcysteine.

1           31. (New) The method of treatment defined in claim 29  
2 wherein the plasma homocysteine reducing agent is Vitamin B<sub>6</sub>.

1           32. (New) A method of reducing a risk of thromboembolism  
2 upon administration of a gestagen hormone to an otherwise healthy  
3 patient who may be threatened by an elevated plasma homocysteine  
4 level as a result of the administration of the gestagen hormone  
5 composition which comprises the step of administering to the  
6 patient simultaneously, previously or subsequently to the gestagen  
7 hormone, a therapeutically effective amount of a plasma  
8 homocysteine reducing agent.

1           33. (New) The method of reducing a risk of  
2 thromboembolism defined in claim 32 wherein the otherwise healthy  
3 patient is from a class of individuals whose plasma homocysteine  
4 levels have been elevated by administering to the patient a  
5 gestagen hormone composition and where the patient's plasma  
6 homocysteine level is reduced following administration of the  
7 plasma homocysteine reducing agent.

1           34. (New) The method of reducing a risk of  
2 thromboembolism defined in claim 33 wherein the patient has been  
3 administered the gestagen hormone composition for contraception,  
4 for hormone replacement therapy, for inflammation, for an in vitro  
5 fertilization program, for dermatological therapy or for  
6 cosmetological treatment.

1           35. (New) The method of reducing a risk of  
2 thromboembolism defined in claim 33 wherein the plasma homocysteine  
3 reducing agent is selected from the group consisting of folic acid,  
4 Vitamin B<sub>6</sub>, Vitamin B<sub>12</sub>, betaine, choline, and acetylcysteine.

1           36. (New) The method of reducing a risk of  
2 thromboembolism defined in claim 9 wherein the plasma homocysteine  
3 reducing agent is folic acid administered in an amount of 0.5 to 5  
4 mg/day.

1           37. (New) The method of reducing a risk of  
2 thromboembolism defined in claim 29 wherein the plasma homocysteine  
3 reducing agent is Vitamin B<sub>6</sub> administered in an amount of 10 to 300  
4 mg/day.

1           38. (new) The method of reducing a risk of  
2 thromboembolism defined in claim 29 wherein the plasma homocysteine  
3 reducing agent is Vitamin B<sub>12</sub> administered in an amount of 300µg to  
4 5 mg/day.

1           39. (New) The method of reducing a risk of  
2 thromboembolism defined in claim 20 wherein the gestagen hormone is  
3 administered to the patient for contraception or for hormone  
4 replacement therapy.